

# The Southwester

Serving Southwest Washington, D.C.

www.swdc.org

January 2000

...where community matters

FREE!

## Southwest D.C. Looks Forward to the 21st Century.



### Southwest 50 Years From Now?

**T**his view of the Southwest Waterfront - with a footbridge across Washington channel to Hains Point is one idea of how our neighborhood might change over the coming 50 to 100 years.

In 1997 the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), a federal agency, issued a report "Extending The Legacy," as a guide for future change in the area. "Washington's revived waterfront will sparkle with cafes, boating and street life," they predict.

Other pictures on this page show how a footbridge would look, and how tourists from the Smithsonian museums could reach the S.W. waterfront at the bottom of a staircase at the waterfront end of 10th St. S.W.

"The first step in implementing the Legacy Plan" was the recent groundbreaking for "streetscape" improvements on 11 blocks of M St. S.E. from So. Capitol St. to 11th St. S.E., according to the chairman of NCPC, Harvey B. Gantt.

He stated:

"Early in our Legacy planning work, we identified the South Capitol/M Street neighborhood as a First Initiative area. It was clear to us that this long-neglected corner of the city, which lies literally within the shadow of the U.S. Capitol, with its magnificent waterfront, and exploding interest in new federal, commercial and residential development, was poised for a rebirth." (See NCP photos on p. 4, and 5).

(continued on page 4, 21st Century In D.C.)

### S.W. Residents Plan The Future With Mayor Williams

**A**bout 40 Southwest residents spent a day at the D.C. Convention Center advising Mayor Anthony Williams on the needs of the city and our neighborhood. Individual hand-held radio transmitters and laptop computers at each table of 10 citizens for reporting directly to the Mayor in another part of the room lent high-tech excitement to the event.

The Mayor said he would use the suggestions in drafting his fiscal year 2001 budget in coming months. Another gathering of citizens is planned on January 27, 2000, at the University of the District of Columbia

(See SUMMIT report and pictures on page 5).

### Inside

Community Calendar .....	2
Community Calendar .....	2
Arts .....	3
Emergency Kit .....	2
The Future in S.W. ....	4, 5
Summit Report .....	5
Improvements At Safeway .....	6
Fish Warf Needs Repair .....	6
Odyssey Cruise for Seniors .....	7
Hospitality High School .....	7

## Your Real Estate Professional

**BEA B. PAGET**  
Specializing in  
Apartments and Townhouses  
..On the Waterfront..  
..On Capitol Hill..



Bea B. Paget  
Licensed in DC, MD & VA  
Your Neighbor in SW

**Call me today!**

**202-554-5317**  
**202-393-1111**

E-mail: beapaget@aol.com

Prudential Carruthers Realtors

## Ft. McNair Prepares For Y2K

Army personnel at Ft. McNair at 4th and P St. S.W. are confident that January 1, 2000 will not bring problems, but are "taking precautions," treating it like a three-day snow storm - "a short-term disruption to normal life," according to The Pentagon weekly newspaper.

The Army is ready with:

Portable latrines, refrigerated trailers, diesel generators, extra drinking water, ready-to-eat meals for its personnel. ■

## Advertising Rates

DISPLAY ADS: Pre- & Post-Paid Rates

Camera Ready

1/16 page	\$35.00
1/8 page	\$70.00
1/4 page	\$140.00
1/2 page	\$275.00
Full page	\$550.00

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Real Estate, Items for Sale, Employment  
\$1 per word

Ad deadline: Wednesday, January 5.

## Classified Ads

(\$1 per word)

Singleton Cleaning Services. Houses, apartments, offices. Bonded and insured. 202-483-6615. ■



Ms. Eda Fox, a new GED trainer at the S.W. Library at 3rd and K St. SW, shows us one of the computers ready to assist adults with math and other skills.

## GED Training Now At S.W. Library

Adults can study math and other GED subjects on 10 computers in a sunny room on the second floor of the Southwest Branch Library at 3rd and K St. S.W. Software and workbooks for all levels are on hand.

A new staff member - Ms. Eda Fox - has started work and another will be added soon so that the room will be open 6 days a week. (A call to 727-6976 before coming in is a good idea). Guidance in operating the computers and using the best study aids will be given.

GED practice tests will be given each Tuesday and Friday to anyone walking in.

Children accompanying adults can use the books in the children's room nearby. ■

## Morning GED Program At Syphax, 1501 Half St #22

By Carole Early

Ms. Patsy Floyd will help you study math, grammar, social studies, history, punctuation, and writing skills for your GED exam at Southwest Community House's free GED program at Syphax Gardens. Preference is given to people living in Southwest.

The center at 1501 Half St. S.W. #22 is open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 12 noon. Walk in or register by phone at 488-7210. You'll get a pre-GED test to find how close you are to passing different subjects.

Some adults will be ready for the 7 hour GED test this spring. The test is offered every few months.

Southwest Community House can help you apply for day care assistance if you need it. ■



Patsy Floyd,  
GED teacher at  
Syphax Gardens.

## Southwest Community Calendar

(January-February 2000)

Dec. 18	Saturday	<b>Komen Toastmasters Club</b> 10:15 am Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW
Jan. 1	Saturday	<b>New Year's Day</b> —Let's all come together for Y2K!
Jan. 5	Tuesday	<b>Mall—Waterfront Taskforce</b> , 7:00 pm SWNA Office, Waterside Mall I Street side
Jan. 10	Monday	<b>Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D</b> , 7:00 pm Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW
Jan. 12	Wednesday	<b>Fil-Am Toastmasters Club</b> 6:45 pm Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW
Jan. 15	Saturday	<b>Komen Toastmasters Club</b> 10:15 am Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW
Jan. 19	Wednesday	<b>AARP SW Waterfront Chapter #4751</b> 12 noon St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M St. SW
Jan. 24	Monday	<b>Southwest Neighborhood Assembly</b> , 7:30 pm St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M St. SW
Jan. 26	Wednesday	<b>Fil-Am Toastmasters Club</b> , 6:45pm Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW
Jan. 27	Thursday	<b>NARFE DC Chapter 2052 Luncheon</b> 12 noon Pier 7 Restaurant at Channel Inn, 650 Water Street SW, For info., call 554-8113
Jan. 27	Thursday	<b>Mayor's Summit</b> , University of DC at Van Ness
Feb. 1	Tuesday	<b>First District Citizens' Advisory Council</b> Meeting, 7:00 pm, DCPD, 415 4th St. SW
Feb. 5	Saturday	<b>Komen Toastmasters Club</b> 10:15 am Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW
Feb. 6	Monday	<b>Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board</b> , 7:00 pm Waterside Mall I Street side

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by January 5th to C.W. Hargrave, 554-8284.

## The Southwester

P.O. Box 70131 ■ Washington, DC 20024

554-8560 (leave message on tape)

Southwester Staff:

Dale MacIver *Assistant Editor*  
Gary Hill *Townhouse Distributor*  
Wally Babington *Theater Critic*  
Susan Fischer *Advertising*  
Cathy Wallace *Business Manager*  
Maurice Cook *Writer*  
Karen Finkel *Desktop Publisher*

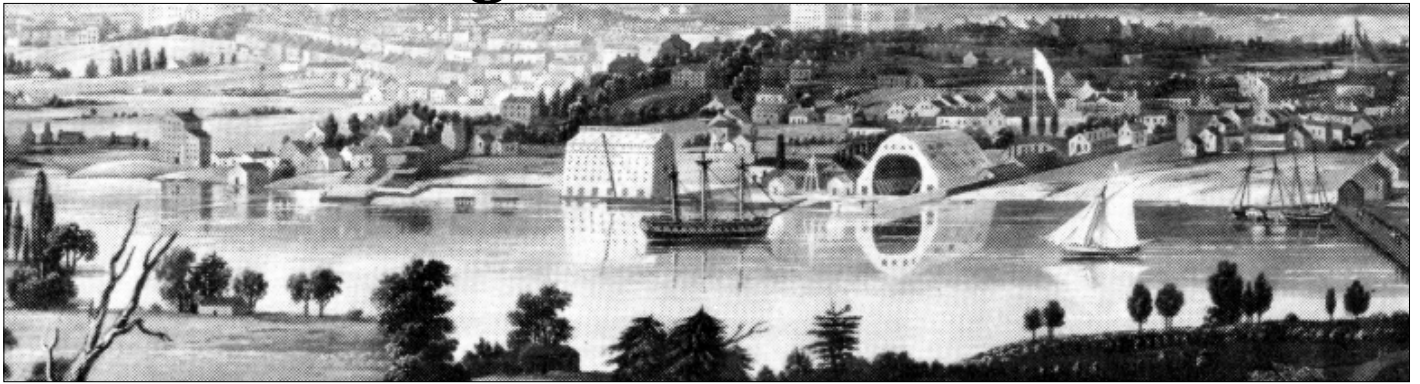
C.W. Hargrave *Calendar*  
Beryl Rice *Southwester Board*  
Lakeisha Johnson  
Kevin Turner  
Carole Early  
Sherry Klein

Drop off your stories on diskette with photos by Wednesday, December 1, in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I or the desk at 700 7th St., SW, Box 130.

E-mail text to: thesouthwester@yahoo.com

Printing by Silver Communications Corp.

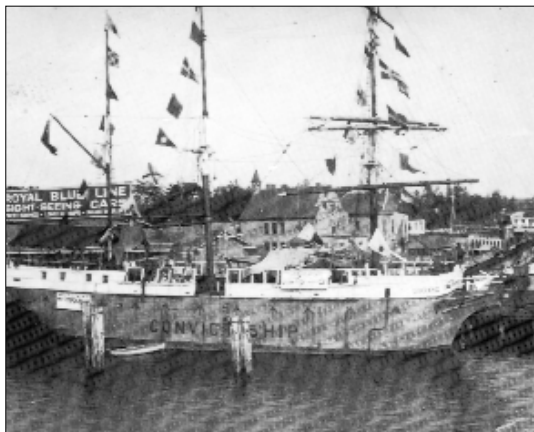
# Years Ago in Southwest D.C.



Southwest on the left and the Navy Yard on the right in this drawing from 1823.



The Southwest waterfront in 1931.



Earlier on the S.W. waterfront

## Rev. Jeanne MacKenzie To Be Honored



Rev. Dr. Jeanne MacKenzie, former pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, will be honored as Pastor Emerita at the 11 am service and a 3 pm tea Sunday, Dec. 19, at the church, 400 I (Eye) St. S.W. Friends and colleagues are welcome to attend.

Rev. Dr. MacKenzie is past secretary of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and

served on the boards of Southwest Community House and Ministries United To Support Community Life Endeavors (MUSCLE).

She served as pastor of Westminster church for 15 years, being the first woman ever ordained by the National Capital Presbytery. Under her leadership, Westminster founded Food & Friends, an AIDS ministry that for several years used the church kitchen to prepare meals for delivery to homebound persons living with AIDS. ■

# Westminster Ad

*Saini Air Conditioning, Inc.*

Saini C. Singh

SALES • REPAIRS • REPLACEMENT •  
INSTALLATION

HEATING, HUMIDIFIERS,  
WATER HEATERS, MAJOR APPLIANCES  
Refrigerators, Ice Maker Attachments  
All Makes & Models including Janitol,  
GE, CARRIER, FEDDERS, etc.  
Serving Entire Metropolitan  
Area Over 18 Years Experience

Service 7 days a week  
24 hours a day

Washington, D.C. 20024  
(703)734-1760 • (202)554-5528

Naturopath • Ph.D. • C.N.C.

**COUNSELING  
ON VITAMIN &  
NATURAL  
REMEDIES**

Nutritional and herbal therapies as an  
alternative to orthodox medicine. For  
appointment call:

202/554-4006

Mon-Fri, 5:00-7:00 PM

## 21st Century in D.C.

A replacement for the South Capitol Street Bridge across the Anacostia River is shown at the top of this page.

With the eventual removal of the elevated railway tracks and SW/SE Freeway "South Capitol Street can become a new gateway to the city." The NCPD picture of how So. Capitol St. might look is on the right.

A new Supreme Court building could be located on Buzzard's Point S.W. overlooking the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, in place of present industrial uses. That picture is shown on page 5.

Dale this is  
blank space. do  
you have more  
copy?

## Free Metro Rides New Year's Eve

By Sherry Klein

Metro rides will be free on New Year's Eve, according to Peter LaPorte, Interim Director of Emergency Preparedness for the District. (In past years Metro has given free bus and rail rides from midnight Dec. 31 to 2 am New Years day). At the November meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly LaPorte stressed personal responsibility for preparing oneself and one's family & friends for emergencies, including the upcoming night of Y2K. He added that two emergency warming shelters for Ward 2 for early January are located at the Francis Junior High School, at 2425 N Street, NW, and at Terrell Junior High School, at 1000 1st St. NW. At the SWNA meeting Michael Ivy of Preparedness Plan & Community Partnership reminded us to keep our community in mind as we gather our resources for our own safety, such as organizing and educating our neighbors as to possible solutions for the inevitable challenges that the future holds, whether human-made or nature-based. As Peter La Porte pointed out, it's not a question of IF a disaster will occur, but WHEN. Lets all be ready...together. ■

Dale this is  
blank space. do  
you have more  
copy?



With the Southeast/Southwest Freeway removed *South Capital Street can become a new gateway to the city.*

## New Year's Eve Church Services

A few churches in Southwest have told *The Southwester* about New Year's eve services Friday, Dec. 31.

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church at 222 M St S.W. "welcomes the neighborhood for refreshments, warm friendship, and a service" from 7 pm to 9:30 pm. Dec. 31.

Friendship Baptist Church, at Delaware Ave. and I (Eye) St. S.W. will hold a Watch Night service from 7 pm till midnight.

Christ United Methodist Church at 900 4th St. S.W. will not have a service at that location, but is joining other Methodist Churches for a service in Silver Spring.

Galilee AME Church, 1225 So. Capitol St. S.W. will hold a Watch Night service at 10:30 PM. ■

Dale this  
is blank  
space. do  
you have  
more  
copy?



South Capital Street today—*severed and isolated.*

## Arena Stage: Radio Mambo

by Wallace Babington

Radio Mambo, currently on stage at Arena's Kreeger Theater, has very little to do with radio and practically nothing related to the mambo. However, it does have a lot to do with humor, satire and insightful commentaries on life among the many varieties of Miamians. None are spared: Cubans, Latinos, blacks, whites and any other ethnic groups that come to their fertile and creative minds. The evening consists of a series of comic skits that are based on interviews conducted in Miami; the topics that form the base for the comic turns are as varied as urban renewal, Castro, displaced Cubans and drag queens. The overall effect of the evening is somewhat like an extended version of the old TV program *Laugh-In*. Moreover, there are times when the result is a laugh aloud.

The trio of creative theater talents who developed this production (Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas and Herbert Siguenza) is known as Culture Clash. In addition, they do at times bring cultures, values and idiosyncrasies into sharp focus. They also do this with a minimum of scenery, costumes and props. It is

amazing what they can do with a wig, a skirt and a boa! Nevertheless, what they do not bring us is any sort of commentary in depth—nothing that makes us wince when he hear it—nothing that makes us identify our own self-deceptions and biases. However, it is really expecting too much to want something that is funny, fresh and clever—and profound at the same time.

It is an evening of fun and laughter. Sort of an R rated vaudeville with a twist. My Generation X grandson enjoyed it more than I did—he laughed more and louder than I - but we both walked out smiling.

Artistic Director Molly Smith tells us that she has commissioned Culture Clash to develop a show about Washington. While in town for the current production, the performers will be conducting interviews with various local Washingtonians. So be careful with whom you talk and what you say. You might just find yourself the subject of this trio's next show at Arena in 2001-2002.

"Radio Mambo" at Arena Stage through January 2, 2000. ■

## Please Donate Now To Our Police Boys & Girls Club

An urgent plea is being made for funds to finance our local Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club #4 at Bowen gym. Tax exempt contributions should be made out to MPB&G Club #4 and mailed to MPB&G Club #4, 101 M St. S.W., Washington D.C., 20024

Five new basketball teams have no uniforms - at about \$400 per team. Many of the 142 kids who have signed up for basketball can't afford the \$20 registration fee required.

New families have moved into vacant townhouses in Greenleaf Annex public housing, and Club #4 has had an increase of 28% in new boys and girls joining.

Our youth do S.W. proud in competition with other neighborhoods, even winning the national Police Athletic League championship in Florida last spring.

Your check will help keep it going. Please.



A new building on Buzzards Point, S.W., to house the U.S. Supreme Court



A few of the Southwest residents attending the Mayor's Summit. (Of course, although Metropolitan Police Chief Ramsey (lower left) is a S.W. resident, he was not representing just Southwest).

Summit (continued from page 1)

"Maybe the city should buy Waterside Mall and develop it," was one suggestion winning support at the three tables of Southwest residents meeting with Mayor Anthony Williams and nearly 3,000 D.C. residents in the D.C. Convention Center in November.

Other suggestions getting support included extending tree and sign landscaping underway on SE M St. to SW M St;

- safety, including police training;
- state-of-the-art resources for S.W. schools in a safe environment;
- creating an arts district in Southwest;
- improving the streets and sidewalks;
- beautifying the waterfront;

- better day care and after school recreation.

Ahmad Nurridin, new chair of the SWNA task force on the Mall and Waterfront, said,

"It is a good beginning at looking at the needs of the neighborhood. The real issue is getting it done."

For an update on the Summit, check the Mayor's web site: <http://www.neighborhoodaction.dcgov.org>.

E-mail address is [neighborhoodaction@dcgov.org](mailto:neighborhoodaction@dcgov.org)

Old fashioned telephone: (202) 727-0882. ■

# Washington Video

# Pick up from folder

Dale this is blank space. do you  
have more copy?



# Fish Wharf

## \$3,000,000 For Southwest Fish Market & Marina

Before it adjourned, Congress renewed a \$3,000,000 appropriation for upgrading the Municipal Fish Wharf and Marina, which are on federal land on Maine Ave. S.W.

A year ago the U.S. Corps of Engineers was directed to make a study of the need for improvements on that end of the Southwest Waterfront. The corps report lists serious deficiencies throughout the area, especially in the Washington Marina. Estimates for correcting the defects run to several million dollars.

Several changes in the fiscal 1999 law were made as part of the District's year 2000 appropriations law. The District is authorized to contract with the Corps and "place orders for engineering and construction and related services with" the corps, on a reimbursable basis. The new law transfers to the Mayor \$3,000,000 "for carrying out the improvements" through the corps. Last year's law conditioned the availability of funds on the District signing new 30 year leases with the present lessees.

The new law "modifies the language to provide flexibility for the Mayor in executing new 30-year leases with the existing lessees or their successors at the Municipal Fish Wharf and the Washington Marina," according to the joint statement of the House and Senate conferees.

Joseph Wolfe, D.C.'s Department of Housing and Community Development's project manager for the work, reported that D.C. has committed \$900,000 in addition to the Federal funds. His phone number is 442-7255. ■

## Marina Under 14th St. Bridge Gets Low Marks From Corps

The Corps of Engineers study of the Maine Ave. Seafood Market and Marina is especially critical of the Marina under the 14th St. Bridge. The Corps faults the District for leasing the facility month-to-month in recent years, making it impossible for the lessee to get financing for improvements.

Built in the late 1930s the wooden piers and boat slips west of the Washington Marina building "are in extremely poor condition throughout." "Of the 65 boat slips available, few can be leased and fewer than 20 can be used at all." Replacing the piers might cost around \$1 million.

The marina building is masonry brick on a concrete pad atop wooden piers. Renovation will cost several hundred thousand dollars. ■

## Four Abandoned Fuel Tanks Need Removal

Four underground fuel tanks in the wharf and marina area need closure, according to the Corps of Engineers study. "Proper UST [Underground Storage Tank] closure will require excavation, destruction of tanks, sampling and disposal of tank contents, removal of all associated piping and ancillary equipment, and soil sampling to confirm that tanks have not contaminated surrounding soil or groundwater." ■



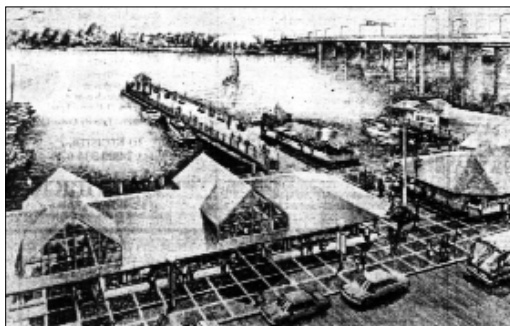
"Lack of safety railing presents hazard to pedestrians and vehicles," says the Corps of Engineers report.



"No safety railing separates the hazardous electrical cords off the pier from the pedestrian path."



"The pavement located between the Washington Marina and the Fish Market is in very poor condition with erosion occurring throughout the area."



A 1991 city study suggested moving Fish Wharf vendors from the present barges to "on-land market pavilions."

## Safeway Brings Back Favorites

by Maurice Cook

Safeway has listened to customer comments and restocked its shelves with many items that had been missing.

The products in question are mainly low-sugar, low-salt, and low-fat products that appeal to health-conscious Southwesterners, according to Irv Gamza of Carrollsburg Condo.

Safeway's regional headquarters had instructed their removal from regional stores due to their supposed lack of mass appeal. That action prompted many health-conscious Southwesterners to appeal directly to Donna Maxwell, the manager of the local Safeway at 4th and M St. S.W.

As a result, those products are now back on the shelves.

Safeway has also placed an order for a replacement of the popular community bulletin board that had for years adorned Safeway's west wall. The board had fallen victim to the store's recent renovation and is sorely missed.

Back in September at a meeting of the SW Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) Ms. Maxwell had fielded area residents' complaints regarding the store's product assortment, displays and cleanliness. SWNA First Vice President Davelene Renshaw feels there is now a marked improvement. ■

## "Smart" Carts At Safeway

By Maurice Cook

Safeway has purchased 100 new, bright silver shopping carts aligned along the supermarket's entrance way. According to Safeway Assistant Store Manager John Wojcekowski, each cart's right front wheel is equipped with an anti-theft device - a small radio receiver that automatically triggers a wheel locking device, making it impossible for a cart to roll when a cart wanders beyond a broad yellow stripe on the sidewalk at the edge of Safeway's property. A low-frequency radio antenna in the stripe activates a cart's wheel locking device when a cart passes over the stripe.

Shoppers wishing to take a cart to their parked car may ask a Safeway employee to temporarily disengage the cart's sensor.

One long-time Safeway shopper, Edna Lewis of Greenleaf Apartments, says: "They're great if they can stop people from stealing carts." This is a fairly typical response, according to Assistant Manager Wojcekowski. So far none of the new "smart" carts has disappeared.

The shopping carts are manufactured by Cartronics, a San Diego firm that produces a range of electronic anti-theft devices.

The cart's trial run in the D.C. family of Safeway stores occurred back in May at the Safeway store on 14th Street S.E. ■

## Odyssey Gives Students Practice As Cruise Ship Staff

More than a dozen high school students with "Odyssey" T-shirts worked as guides and servers for a two-hour Thanksgiving cruise on the Potomac River.

Students from the "Marriott Hospitality High School"—a new public charter high school in downtown Washington, D.C.—helped senior citizens alight from buses and vans, directed them to tables in the 600 seat cruise ship, and brought steaming plates of turkey with all the trimmings to the tables.

This is the fifth year that the Odyssey worked with the charity S.O.M.E., Inc. (So Others Might Eat), Southwest Community House and other charities to donate the meal and cruise on the Potomac to needy clients. Crew and staff from the Odyssey volunteer their time in preparing the meal and serving the guests.

"Celebrities"—familiar TV personalities and others—also greeted and served the visitors. ■

Marriott Hospitality High School students help senior citizens get from vans and buses onto the Odyssey cruise ship for a Thanksgiving cruise.



Familiar TV personalities donned aprons and helped serve Thanksgiving meals on the Odyssey.

## January Openings For 9th Graders At Hospitality High

Ninth Grade students at other schools will have a chance to transfer in January 2000, to the Marriott Hospitality High School. A few vacancies can be filled in mid-term, according to school principal Flossie M. Johnson. Contact her at 202-737-6337.

The school opened in September 1999, with 70 ninth and tenth graders on two floors of a newly renovated building at 410 8th St. N.W. As those students advance to 10th and 11th grades next fall a new class of 50 9th graders will be added.

As one of D.C.'s 30 public charter schools, attendance is free. The Marriott School receives about \$6,600 per pupil of tax money and raises about 40% of its operating expenses from donations - mostly from hotel and restaurant companies eager to see this effort succeed.

The curriculum includes all required high school courses. Standardized tests will be given in April 2000. Some other courses will lead to college and some to entry into the workforce. ■



Near the end of the Odyssey cruise, students from the hospitality high school get to sit down for the turkey dinners they've been serving.

## WASHINGTON CABLE



*Serving Southwest D.C. for over 20 years*

*Washington Cable vision is available at:*

Capital Park	Town Center
Carrollburg	Plaza
The Lansburgh	Town Square
Market Square	Towers
River Park	Washington
Watergate	Harbour
Marina View	Waterside
Towers	Towers
Pennsylvania	
Plaza	

**No unsightly wiring in your apt.**  
*We use the existing wiring in your walls.*

**The best of cable TV at a reasonable price including:**

CNBC, CNN, HN, ESPN, C-Span, BET, MTV, Discovery, A&E, and more.

**THREE movie services are available:**

**HBO, SHOWTIME & THE MOVIE CHANNEL**

**Call (202) 646-1600 to order**

**Photos Plus Ad  
Pick up from 11/99**

**Le Rivage Ad**

*Shhhh...*  
**You wouldn't want to  
let out DC's best kept secret!**

Tiber Island Cooperative Homes, the city's premier waterfront community, is the place to live. A quick walk from Capitol Hill, the Mall, and downtown's attractions, Tiber Island is also convenient to major roads and Metro.

Planning an event? Then consider the beautifully renovated historic Thomas Law House — a Washington showplace for more than 200 years.

429 N Street, SW, WDC 20024 • 202-554-4844  
visit our web site @ [www.tiberisland.com](http://www.tiberisland.com)



Jenny's  
New ad. in Folder.  
Print wreath in green,  
type in black.